

A MESSAGE.

She wasn't on the playground, she wasn't on the laws,
The little one was missing and bedtime coming on.
We hunted in the garden, we peeped about to see
If sleeping under ross tree or like size might be.
But nothing came in answer to all our saxious

Until at length we heatened within the darkening

And then upon the stillness there broke a silvery The darling mile was standing before the tele-

fily, as we listened, came stealing down *H'lo, Centrali Give me heaven. I want to say -Sidney Dayre in Independent.

THE STRANGE FLUTIST.

Last January, on the first evening that a light snow carpeted the roofs of Paris, a closed carriage rolled along the boulevards, spinning like a zebra. It was so loaded with trunks that you would have thought an actress was setting out on a journey.

Worse. Withir was a valstudinarian, large

and fat, one of those whom a trille disturbs, and who think their final day of reckoning i near when they have a cold in the head. This one imagined he had work lungs. So at the th of cold went her he bundled himself with furs and fied to Nice.

He was a bechelor. Although he could have married at any time, I ke he had 100,000 france in stocks, and therefore suited many young ladies, he had been unvilling to dispose of his right hand. Next to hi mself, the one he loved best was his cook—not for herself, but for her cooking. No one took better care of No. 1. Under no circumstances would be have disturbed himself to do a theor. He would not have lent five sous to his father in the street, for ft would have been a seessary to unbutton his overcost to take out his purse.

He was indeed the most extravagant crank to be met with. His most insignificant acts were on system; he siept, rose, ate, emoked and took medicine with his watch in hand. Many curious stories were told at his ex-pense. For instance, he was so nervous, so irritable, that he detested the songsters in the courtyards. The porter had to drive them away with the broom. To persons who per-sisted in singing in the street he quickly threws half frame on condition that they would leave. Now, every time the porter Inches the price of a drink he put on a false beard and a red waistcoat and went under the window, troping on a pan as a prelude to a damp. Immediately a half frame was

The neighbors had to hold their sides, for there are people whereamon help laughing.

At Nice he always put up at the great
United Stapes hotel, where for fifteen years
the same ranguificant room, well exposed to the sun, had been reserved for his use. It was the only one he fancied, and he occupied it until Apr. 0 2 at news precisely, the hour at which he set out for Paris.

His name excited marin. I will not at-tempt an explanation, but exerybody amiled whenever he was introduced. He was known

Now M. Janue arrived at Nicethe dayafter leaving Paris at 6 o'clock in the evening. He perbook of an exhellent dinnor—a buuillabalsee aux langoustes, a fillet marine, a quail, asparagus, and a bottle of Chateau la Rose With this he hoped not to die with hunger, Then, after inwing smoked a good cigar to settle his coffee and commpagne, he retired to

It was 9 o'clock when he enscorred himself in bed. He extinguished the light, and, stretching himself out, anticipated swop like

But scarcely land he dropped into a doze when a flute was beard in the next spart-ment playing the sir from Faust:

"Let, oh, let me gure upon thy face?" The tone was sweet and silvery, so the first impression was charming; but the flutist ent short the melody at the fourth measure and repeated it several times, then rested for five mites and resumed in like manner, stop-

ping at the same point.
"What is the matter with hear" said M. The other continued without a sign of

At the fitfu rehearzal, as there is nothing so agreeable as not to weary in the end, M, James tapped on the partition wall. The flute was slient. Satisfied, he took a potation from his night table and closed his eyes. It was 10 o'clock. The notel was almost empty. the greater part of the guests not having yet come in. Suddenly the peaceful stlence was broken by the finte.

"Let, els, let me gare upon thy face?"

M. Jame grow excited.
"Whew! He is getting to be a nuisance. If this is for an extra attraction I will dis-He towped loudly and cried out:

Will you stop! If you don't I'll gaze upon your face pretty seen!"
When M. Jaune got augry he forgot the again, and he began to get drowsy.

"Let, ob, let me gain upon thy face!"

"Fig! The mean scarap!"
He rang for the chambermald, Who is this idiot of a flutist whom I have

for a neighbor?" he asked. "A flutist?" she exclaimed, with a vacant three weeks."
"Why, M. Jaime, you are dreaming." "I know it

The chamber is empty."

M. Jame dured not reply. The surmiss ington Post. obtruded itself that perhaps be was beginning to have delusions. Besides, reclong as the chambermaid was at 1 and the fluist could not be heard. But scarcely was she gone,

"Let, oh, let me gaze upon thy face" And so on about once a minute. M. Jaune floundered about and sank under the bed cov-

erings exhausted. At 11 o'clock he heard some one enter. Under the partition door he saw a gleam of light. He heard the rustling of garments and preparations for bod. Afterward quiet

On this second day, after having taken a walk on the Promouade Des Anglais for a sun bath, passed a little time at the club and dined composedly, he went up to retire at 10

He commenced undressing. Suddenly-just "Let, oh, let me gaze upon thy face."

Forgetting his grotesque appearance in his nightcap, half undressed, he rushed down to complain to the muster of the house. "M. Favioli, why do you furnish lodgings to musical artists in a house which I thought

"Truly, M. Jaune, I do not know what you mean. I bog you to believe that I have regard enough for my interests to refuse those

"Then you have one without knowing ita flutist—at No. 10, next me."
"I beg your pardon, M. Jaune, at No. 10 is

a most sedate lady, Mme, Kissmicouick, of the United States, and at No. 6 is Miss Whiterose, of Loudon." "I repeat that there is a flutist at No. 10.

Perhaps the lady thrusts him into the wardwhen any one goes in." "I beg your pardon sowin, M. Jaune. Mrie.

Elemiconisk enjoys an irreproacable repu-tation. No landlord in Nice would be willing to receive a doubtful character. Mme. Kie-micoulck is a mature widow. If she flirted It would be erriously, and as she weighs some \$00 pounds it would not be with a finte. She would take at least a clarionel. This lady

Every once in awaile he gets in
goes every evening into the best accept, and
the idea that he is immensely from

room. However, his head was scarcely on the pillow-crack; you have it:

"Let, oh, let me gare upon thy facet"
"Flute again!" exclaimed M. Jaune. He
ang for the chambermaid. "Ask your master to come here."

M. Favioli hurried up.

M. Favioli hurried up.

"Liston, pray," said M. Jaune.

M. Favioli endsavored to hold his breath.

Of a sudden two philandering cats set up a catgrawuling on the balcony.
"I hear only two cats talking love to each

other," said M. Favioli.
"I hear them, too," M. Jaune chimed in. Be patient! The flute will begin again." M. Favioli held his breath. Suddenly, crack, the flute!

"Let, oh, let me gase upon thy face;" M. Jame, in sgitation, struck against the wall, while M. Favioli burst into loud laugh-

"I have it, M. Jaune-I have it, I will preent you to the artist. Please follow me He took a light, and opening Mme. Kissmiouick's door with his pass key, he pointed to a cage on the table, in which a bird similar to our blackbirds was moving his head about

and singing without a semblance of fear.
"That is Mme. Kissmicourick's flute, M. Jaune—an Australian nightingule. These birds learn an air perfectly and in the night charm the neighbors."

Somewhat calmer, for it was folly to get angry with a bird, M. Jaune said:

"Propose to the lady to sell it to me. Go as safety of the precious human freight comnigh as 500 frames, that I may have the satis-

faction of wringing its neck."
"Well, M. Janne, I will speak to her this

M. Favioli complied with his promise, but Mme. Kissmicouick sent him walking.
"Five hundred france!" she cried. "Ithink bird for \$500, for it is a souvenir of my hus-

The word "fellow" touched M. Jaune's sensibility; he grew red in the face and threat-

sleep from 2 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon he at the time the jumping engineer got ready scraped on a violin, 250 times in succession, to leave his engine he should find that his the first four measures of "Returning from

Unfortunately for his plan Mme, Kissmiother and slept with the seremity of a mar-

In the evening, still in a perspiration, de-lighted with having silenced the bird, if not the mistress, he promised himself a fine sleep. But hark! Suddenly in the silence, crack!

threw into it a bisemit dipped in arseniate of potash and tripped back again to his room. a minute instead of once, and then, as though it had two throats, it warbled the two airs

ogether, "Let Me," and "The Review." Furious, M. Jaune ran again to the door of American lady. She had now come in and locked it, but it gave way under the im-

pact of his shoulder. 'Madame," crisd be, "your conditions, no matter what they are!"
"Indeed, sir," she replied, her face suffused

with blushes, "you have broken into my domicile with a high hand. Save my honor! Marry me!"
"Beelzebub may take you first!" exclaimed

"Theological may take you area: electaness."

M. Jaune, without any French courtesy.

"Then I shall appeal to the law."

Pestered by the endless troubles which pursued him M. Jaune was finally brought to

'I consent if you let me kill that miserable "I will hand him over to you willingly on the day of the nuptials, dear M. John."

thought that his name was John instead of

M. Jaune led Mme. Kissmicouick to the altar a few days afterward.

hurry off to her own country." Now, on returning from the review-excuse me, I mean from church—he promised himself the inhuman satisfaction of having the nightingale fricasced and served with Novertheless, Mme. Jaune-Kiss-

micoulek graciously handed him the cage. bird which a Parisian artist had mounted as a singing bird. In order to keep the wheels ters, leoken glass, etc. At the next revolu-

Miss Whiterese at No. 6. In face of such contempt M. Jaune has en-

error of person-or rather for error of bird. Francisco Call. Deserved an Increase of Salary:

There is a Washington correspondent who Is noted for facility of expression rather than for accuracy. In fact, his paper has on several occasions had some explaining to do on his account. He is not remarkable for industry, and one of his employers while in Washington took occasion to say to him:

"Mr. J.—, you don't seem to be exerting yourself much. I must confess I don't see what you have been doing. You haven't sent us two columns of matter in the last

"I know it," was the reply, "but I've been saving the paper a heap of trouble."-Wash-



Seedy individual (seeing sign)-Reduced to ight cents, are your So am I, by thunder!-

Harper's Weekly. The Wrong Leg.

"Is that dog of your good for anything?" he asked of a saloon keeper on Michigan avenue as he motioned to a canine that lay behind the stove.

Is hel You just lay your hand on my shoulder and utter a whosy."

The man did so and the dog sprang up and bir his owner in the leg and gracefully re-

"How do you account for that!" asked the inquirer as a general laugh went round, f. Hang it, I had forgotten that he was cross eyed!" was the reply. "I ought to have put my hand on your shoulder and yelled."-

Detroit Free Press. Blankin's Hallucination. "Oneer thing about Blankin's," said one

"What is that?"

"Every once in awaile he gets imbued with "Thave seen him that way. Yeard by the Mactuff plais. The Scotch heather of the M. Jauna, disconcerted, went back to his Scotch to was rich enough to pay me \$10. Horst does differ a little from the Scotch some time if I would lend it to him."-Washington Post.

MEN AT THE THROTTLE.

ALL WHO STICK IN TIME OF DAN-GER ARE NOT HEROES.

An Old Engineer Says It Is Often Safer Not to Jump-Some Interesting Illustrations of His Theory-The Fate of "Doo"

"Things have changed considerably since you used to ride with me," said a prominent railroad official to a reporter the and the reporter was compelled to admit that they had, for in the days recalled the now general superintendent of a great railroad was an engineer and the scribe a junior clerk in the freight department of the company "Yes," continued the old gentleman, "every-

thing is changed except the average new paper writer's idea of the crushing weight of responsibility under which the locomotive engineer is supposed to constantly stagger. The assumption that he stands rigid on the footboard, with one hand firmly gracoing the throttle and the other clutching the reverse lever, his eyes riveted on the track ahead of im, and his soul racked with anxiety for the

THE PIRST LAW OF NATURE. "Self preservation is the first law of nature, and no man confronting almost certain death sinks all thoughts of his own safety beneath a wave of anxiety for the preservation of others. Some engineers, though they are as much of it as a Chinaman of his pigtail.

Say to that fellow that I will not sell my rhances of escaping injury or death in a colchances of escaping injury or death in a col-lision, though small in any circumstances, are batter in remaining in the cab than in jumping. Others adhere to the belief that the chances of escape are influitely better in sping. But there are many conditions to As Mme. Kissmicouick was accustomed to be taken into consideration. Suppose that leap would land him in a ravine lifty feet o more in depth, or upon a pile of railread iron, or dash him against a stone wall, do could was deaf of one car. She lay on the you think he would jump! Not he, He other and slept with the serenity of a mar-would take his chances of crawling out of the wreck alive rather than jump into eter-

"The first thing an engineer thinks of when his engine leaves the track is to shut off his steam. He then reaches for the air brake and at the same time tries to reverse you have. No, you don't have it.

The bird, which had, it appeared, a proher. Suppose he is on a high embankment, The bird, which had, it appeared, a produce to "Returning and that by the time he has appeared to digious memory, began to sing "Returning and that by the time he has appeared the from the Review," without prejudice to "Let his engine begins to roll down the bank. He from the Review," without prejudice to "Let his engine begins to roll down the bank. He can't jump, for he is rolling with her, and in can't jump, for he is rolling with her, and in of one annoyance M. Jaune had two.

Under such provocation he stole with the lever or throttle to hold on. Propagy to trend of a wolf to Mme. Kissmicouick's door, next turn the engine makes will crush the engineer to death. When the wreck is cleared engineer to death. on the throttle, and out goes the report that he refused to jump and perished a victim to But, far from making away with itself, as his efforts to save his passengers, though all the crael lordling hoped, the bird sang twice of the available efforts to stop the train had been exhausted with his shutting off, applying the brake and reversing. No matter, the fact that his hand was on the throttle is this report is made the statement that the fireman jumped and saved his life. Of course he did. He had plenty of time, and if the engineer had had as much time don't be fooiish enough to think that he wouldn't have gone with the fireman."

"I seems strange to see you in the role of iconoclast, Mr. A., after having yourself served as an engineer for twenty-five years," remarked the reporter.

"Why, my dear fellow, I am not trying to destroy any idols; I am simply endeavoring to impress upon your mind the fact that the locomotive engineer is only human. TWO ENGINEERS. "As engineers seldom lose their heads, I

will give you the only instance of one doing so that I can recall. It illustrates the theory, too, that it is safer to remain in the cab than to jump. Joe B, had never had an accident more serious than a broken spring hanger since he began railroading. His phenomenal buck in this respect gained for him—through "I will be so disagrecable," said he to him-the local papers, of course—the reputation self, "that she cannot endure me, and will

of being the most careful and trustworthy sentinger on the road. One day as he was bowling along at about thirty-five miles an hour, with ten well loaded passenger cars be-bind him, he slid off his sent to stretch his legs. He had scarcely gained his feet when three foot piece attached to the crank pin of Zonods! What a surprise! It was a stuffed the back driver crashed through the seat he from rusting the lady wound it up every tion the flying end of the red struck the end svening before going out. The other nightingale, which M. Jame had and set her down with a bang. Did the entaught to sing "The Review," was that of gineer, whose fidelity and carefulness—according to the local papers-had enabled him to ren ten or fifteen years without mishap tered a complaint to annul the marriage for and endeared him to the frequent riders on the road, 'bravely stick to his post' and sac-Translated from the French for the San rifico himself to the safety of his ten car feancisco Call. incontinently sacrificed himself to the fright which overcame him. He didn't even wait to shut off, but took a flying leap as the red came through the cab a second time, and, landing on his head, broke his neck. The fireman stopped the train, 'took down' the isabled side of the engine, and brought ber in.

On the other hand, I suppose the case of El Shamons, better known as 'Doc' Simmone, who was killed at New Hamburgh draw about twenty years ago, is the best exthan hanging on that railroad history records. Simmons was hauling the express that left New York about 6:30 p. m. As he neared New Hamburgh bridge he saw coming toward him on the down track a freight train. As the latter struck the bridge severnl of its cars loaded with oil left the track and crowded over toward the up track, so that it was impossible for Simmons to pass use, at least on the Hudson River road, and cars were fitted, however, with what was known as the Crouner patent brake, which was used in emergencies. The apparatus consisted of a powerful spring attached to the brake wheel at one end of the car. The spring was wound up and held by a pawl and ratchet. A sharp pull of the bell cord raised the pawl and released the spring, which set the brakes. Simmons undoubtedly believed bridge, and, in addition to his recourse to the erdinary methods of stopping, teld his firemust to pull the 'patents.' The fireman testi-fied at the coroner's inquest that he obeyed the order, but whether he did or not is still nn open question. There is no doubt, how-ever, that he jumped immediately after getting the order, he himself having admitted that, and he is nilve today, while Simmons, who hadn't the time to jump after the necessity for doing so became plain, went with his engine through the tes to the bottom of Wappinger's creek. When Simmons was taken out a few days later not a scratch could be found on his body. He had been simply found on his body. He l drowned.—New York Sun.

Miss Yellowleaf-All the gentlemen I met while out walking this afternoon smiled at me.

Miss Caustique-Laughed, you mean, - Drake's Magazine.

A Pot of Blooming Heather.

If you are a man and desperately in love with the dearest girl in the world, and do not vant to just send her a bunch of flowers, but want to do something which is extremely pretty, there must go addressed to ber, with your card tied to it, a pot of blooming Scotch ribbon that could be worn as a such of the beather seen in Scotland, but it is extremely pretty. - Philodelphia Times.

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HE GRINNED AT HENNIFIN. A Policeman's Impetnous Action Which Cost the City a Quarter. Policeman Hennifln, active and watch-

ful of the public welfare, saw a cabman whipping a horse. "What are you doing there?" the po-

liceman called. "Don't you see what I am doing?"

"Yes, I do." "Then why do you ask me?"

"You impudent rascal, I'll run you in." The policeman got in the cab and ordered the fellow to drive to the Harrison street station. The next morning the cabman was arraigned before court, and when the judge asked who had made the arrest, Hennifin stepped forward and

"Your honor, I saw this man whipping his horse and I arrested him." "And your honor," the cabman broke in, "I whipped him because he kicked me. There's not a man in this town that's been kinder to a horse than I've been to this one, and under the circum-

stances I had a right to whip him." "That may be," the judge answered, but I am compelled to fine you, even though the amount be merely nominal. I will therefore assess your fine at fifty "All right," the cabman replied, and I

cents against the city."
"What for?" the judge asked. "For hauling this policeman to the sta-

wish to present a bill for seventy-five

"Did he bring you in his cab?" the judge asked of the policeman. "Your honor, I arrested him, and instead of calling a patrol wagon I thought the easiest way would be to have him

drive down here and"-"Give him seventy-five cents," said the judge. The cabman received the money,

placed fifty cents on the judge's desk, put twenty-five cents in his own pocket, grinned at Policeman Hennian and strode out.-Arkansaw Traveler.



"Permit me, madam"-





"Return your umbrella!!"-Puck Why It Comes High. Patient (who had just had his eye operated

upon)-Doctor, it seems to me \$50 is a high price to charge for that job. It didn't take on ten seconds.
Eminent ()culist—My dear friend, in learn ing to perform this operation in ten seconds I have spoiled more than two bushels of such



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